

May 2024

THE SPIRIT

Newsletter of Floyd United Methodist Church



Goddard Meets New Grandson Before Heading to General Conference

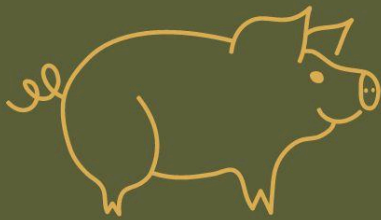
Our District Superintendent celebrates the birth of her grandson, Parker Reeves Coleman, who was born weighing 8 pounds, 13 ounces, on April 20, 2024.

Page 6



FLOYD UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Impact
Student
Ministry



Pulled Pork

FUNDRAISER



Join us for a pulled pork
dinner at the church to
support our student ministry.

***Monday
May 20***

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

*Take-Out available.
Call to order:*

540-745-4121





Bishop Urges ‘Spirit of Hope’ as General Conference Begins

By Kathy L. Gilbert | Courtesy of UM News

Council of Bishops President Thomas J. Bickerton opened the postponed 2020 United Methodist General Conference on April 23 with a bold question: “Do you want to be in this room?”

He was speaking to delegates from Africa, Europe, Asia and the U.S. who are gathering to consider major proposals that could dramatically change the denomination.

“Are you willing to move forward in a spirit of hope and embrace a season of reformation, commit to the revitalization of The United Methodist Church and work for a culture marked by compassion, courage and companionship?” Bickerton asked.

If not, he said, “Maybe you are in the wrong place.”

After opening worship, Kim Simpson, the chair of the Commission on the General Conference, said that 751 out of the 862 allotted delegates were registered and present as of noon on opening day of the lawmaking assembly, which continues through May 3 at the Charlotte Convention Center. That total includes 273 delegates out of 370 from the central conferences — church regions in Africa, Europe and the Philippines. Simpson said registrations are still ongoing.

General Conference is the only entity that speaks for the denomination. The 2020 General Conference was postponed several times because of the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning the last regular session of the lawmaking assembly took place eight years ago. Since that time, more than 7,600 U.S. churches, about a quarter of the denomination's U.S. congregations in 2019, left The United Methodist Church under a policy that expired at the end of last year.

"I think it is OK that we have had a delay," said Bickerton, who leads the New York Episcopal Area. "We are a completely different church than we were just four years ago. A bit of dust has settled, and we can see that there is a future with hope and possibility."

However, he warned the delegates not to go back to a narrative of "finger-pointing" that blames others for the state of the denomination. Referring to past General Conferences, Bickerton reminded delegates that sometimes in the heat of the moment, "humanness steps up to the plate, bringing anger, anxiety and fear."

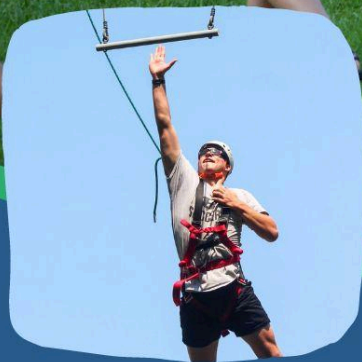
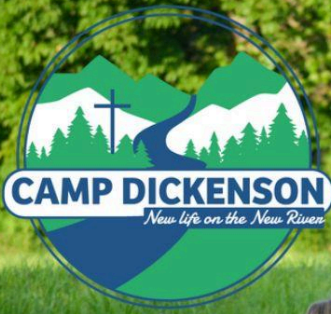
Be careful it does not happen again here in Charlotte, North Carolina, he warned. "There have been conversations about COVID, post-COVID, declining sustainability, disaffiliation, racism, exclusion. Conversations that at times gutted our souls and our hope," he said. He declared this General Conference a seminal moment. "It is time to move forward as a denomination with new purpose and energy," he said.

Laughing, Bickerton acknowledged he knew that some in the audience are convinced that the revival of the church will happen with legislation or during a business session. "Maybe our primary work in this space is about our motives," he said. "And maybe our preparation should be more about asking, 'How is it with your soul?' more than 'How is it with your legislative committee?'"

Bickerton said before every sermon, he prays, "Oh God, remove me from me and fill me with you." He invited everyone to have a similar prayer as they make decisions for the future of The United Methodist Church.

"Are you ready?" he asked. "What do you say we do it right this time — for the glory of God?"

Gilbert is a freelance writer in Nashville, Tennessee. This article was published April 23, 2024.



SUMMER CAMP AT CAMP DICKENSON

Registration is now open for rising 2nd – 12th graders!

Contact Pastor Timothy for information on how to register.

The church is offering a discount for campers from our congregation.

[LEARN MORE AT CAMPDICKENSON.COM](http://CAMPDICKENSON.COM)



Goddard Meets New Grandson Before Heading to General Conference

By Annette Spence | Courtesy of Holston.org

KINGSPORT, Tenn. -- Parker Reeves Coleman didn't have to wait for a 10-day church meeting to be over until he could meet his grandmother for the first time.

Baby Parker's due date was April 25, but he was born on April 20, giving his grandmother time to hold him before dashing off to serve as a delegate to General Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The proud grandmother is the Rev. Kim Goddard, head of the delegation representing Holston Conference at the April 23-May 3 gathering of the denomination's top policy-making body.

"When I found out the due date was April 25, I knew we were going to be cutting it close if I got to see him before General Conference," said Goddard. "I'm just so thankful that I got to hold him before heading out. This will make the next 10 days a little easier."

Parker's parents are Annie and Jackson Coleman. Annie is the daughter of the Rev. Kim Goddard and the Rev. Jim Goddard.

Besides being a new mom, Annie is director of student and young adult ministries at Mafair United Methodist Church in Kingsport. Her mother served as pastor at Mafair from 2009 to 2016 while Annie and her sister finished middle and high school. Annie's husband, Jackson, grew up at First Broad Street United Methodist Church in Kingsport.

When Kim Goddard learned that her daughter's labor would be induced on April 20, she packed her bags to first visit Kingsport for the weekend and then to go to Charlotte for 10 days. Goddard, who now serves as New River District superintendent with an office in Wytheville, Virginia, explained that her job as "Nana" over the weekend was to care for Baby Parker's older sister. Blakely will be three years old in June.

"I will be here with Blakely until Monday, when her parents and Parker come home and I head to General Conference," Goddard said.

She added that she is "heading to Charlotte hopeful and prayerful we will experience the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit."

"I told persons at the Pre-General Conference briefings that three things guide my discernment and determine how I vote at General Conference," Goddard said. She listed the questions she will ask herself as:

- 1 - How does scripture inform and guide me?
- 2 - How can I best represent Holston Conference?
- 3 - How do my decisions work toward a faithful and fruitful UMC that will continue to nurture my children, and now my grandchildren?

"So, on Saturday I got to meet one more very important reason to get it right," Goddard said.

Annette Spence is editor of The Call, the Holston Conference newsletter. This article was published April 21, 2024.



Friday Night

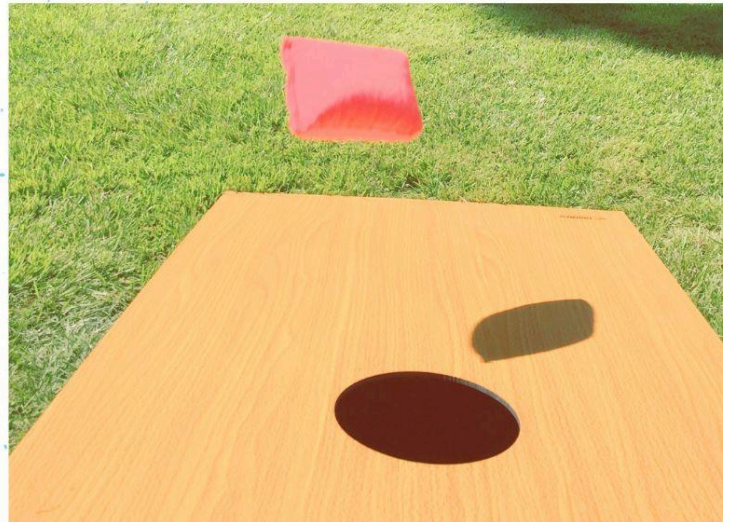
• FOOD AND FUN •

FRIDAYS

5:30 PM

Join us for a free meal and fun games for the whole family!

Starting Friday, May 3
in the Picnic Shelter



May Celebrations

Birthdays

7 - Karoline Johnson
7 - Tyler Williams
12 - Maren Stinnett
12 - Leah Altizer
17 - Ashten Ober
19 - Carol Jarratt
21 - Joe Gallimore
22 - Megan Clontz
23 - Phillip Radford
26 - Colton Thomas
28 - Lincoln Brinson
31 - Timothy Hale
31 - Roy Scoggin

Anniversaries

2 - Brian & Ashley Ingram
10 - Buel & Sharon Hylton
10 - Joe & Angie Gallimore
16 - Jason & Megan Clontz Crolley
30 - Robert & Katlyn Burton

Update your family's information by contacting Pastor Timothy.

***Note: our new church management system does not list birthdays or anniversaries without years. This has caused some dates to be lost. Please let Pastor Timothy know if your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or missing. Thank you!*

Serving in May

Ushers

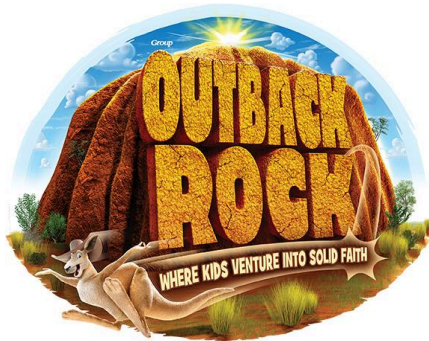
Don Gardner
Will Griffin
Jamie Radford
Phillip Radford

Bereavement Team

Cindy Salyer
Melissa Spangler
Cindy Blevins

VBS 2024

Save the dates! This year's Vacation Bible School will be **June 13-14 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** Registration is now open for kids ages 3-11 on the church website or in the Church Center app.



Our Prayer List

Long Term

For peace in our world, Christian missionaries,
Joe Blackwell, Casey Blackwell, Kevin Vest, Shelby Hale, Charles Burgess, Ginny Barker, Don Gardner, Peggy Harris, Judi Clemens, Chester Gallimore, Rhett Helms, Mason Pearce, Graysen Bean, Virginia Brown, Ava Juwan Crolley, Angel Spangler, Tommy & Louise Hall, David Wimmer, Gayle Griffin, Donna Johnson, Luca Gucciardo, Lauren Worley, Carol Sutphin, Bink & Dreama Tolbert

Our Military

All those serving in all branches of our military, Darren Wood, David Thornton Booker, Jeremy Dolan, Tom Giles, Michael Kovac, Brody Stroud, Jeremiah Hassel

Short Term

Jim Salyer, Francis Berkley, BP Simpson, Sallie Martin, Joe Sowers, Peggy Harris, Steve Thomas, Roger Belcher, Terry Williams

Add or remove a name from the list by emailing pastor@floydumc.com.

Financial Report

Offering (4/10/24)	\$59,040.41
Expenses (4/10/24)	\$51,118.80
Difference	\$7,921.61

Give online at floydumc.com or mail in your gift to P.O. Box 55, Floyd, VA 24091.

May 2024 Calendar



FLOYD UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours Tuesday-Thursday, 9 a.m.–Noon, or by appointment. Pastor Timothy will be on vacation May 20-25. Find the church calendar online at floydumc.com/events .			1 Bible Study, 11 a.m.	2	3 Friday Night Food & Fun, 5:30 p.m.	4
5 Worship, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. Student Ministry Planning Meeting, 11 a.m. Student Ministry Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.	6 Hospitality Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.	7 GriefShare, 5 p.m.	8 Bible Study, 11 a.m.	9	10 Friday Night Food & Fun, 5:30 p.m.	11
12 Mother's Day Worship, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m.	13	14 GriefShare, 5 p.m.	15 Bible Study, 11 a.m.	16	17 Friday Night Food & Fun, 5:30 p.m.	18
19 Graduation Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. Graduation Sunday Picnic, 11 a.m. (following Worship)	20	21 GriefShare, 5 p.m.	22	23	24 Friday Night Food & Fun, 5:30 p.m.	25
26 Fourth Sunday Breakfast, 9 a.m. Worship, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m.	27 Memorial Day	28 GriefShare, 5 p.m.	29	30	31 Friday Night Food & Fun, 5:30 p.m.	